

businessman and friend, Mr. Marion Strickler Adams Jr., who passed away at age 78 on July 26, 2010, after a courageous battle against lung cancer.

Ma'on, as he was known by his family and many friends, exemplified honor and leadership throughout his endless accomplishments and in everyday life.

While studying at Vanderbilt University, his future leadership skills became apparent with his role as commander of "A" Company in the Naval Reserve.

After graduating Cum Laude, he was commissioned in the United States Navy as an Ensign and served on active duty for two years. He continued as an active member of the Naval Reserve for several years following his discharge, attaining the rank of full lieutenant, along with being a member of the Mobile Council of the Navy League.

Ma'on joined his father's family owned business, Mobile Glass Company, where he served as president until his retirement.

An active member of the community, he was a Rotary Club Paul Harris Fellow and a member of numerous civic and mystic societies.

As a lifelong, faithful member of Government Street Presbyterian Church, Ma'on served in numerous leadership roles on both local church levels and in Presbytery and General Assembly capacities. His faith was the foundation of his life.

His love for family and the outdoors was nurtured during countless summers at Point Clear, and later on at his beloved Mount Pleasant where he enjoyed fishing, hunting, and being surrounded by his adoring children and grandchildren.

A friend to everyone and a devoted family man, he brought great joy to his loved ones.

Ma'on was deeply loved by his wife of 50 years, Ann Greer Adams, his three children, Marion S. Adams III, Sumner Greer Adams, and Monnie Adams Caine, as well as his eight loving grandchildren, Strickler IV, Glenn, Robin, Sumner, Laura, Winston, Marion, and Elliott. He also leaves behind a sister, many nieces and nephews and 17 first cousins who continue to congregate at the Adam's home place in Beersheba Springs, Tennessee, along with countless numbers of friends all over Alabama.

On behalf of everyone who knew and loved Ma'on, I offer my deepest condolences to his family. Marion Adams lived a truly remarkable life and will always be remembered.

UNITED STATES PATENT AND
TRADEMARK OFFICE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT,
2010

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 28, 2010

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support H.R. 5874, the United States Patent and Trademark Office Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2010. This bill will help reduce backlogs in processing patent

applications. I am a proud to have voted with a majority of the House to pass this important piece of legislation.

Processing patents is crucial to the U.S. economy. In order for our nation to thrive in a global economy, it is essential that patent and trademark applications are processed in a timely and efficient manner. Currently, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) can take an average of nearly three years to complete the examination of a patent application and has maintained a backlog of unexamined applications for several years. At this time, there are approximately 1.2 million patent applications in the system with more than 750,000 awaiting review by a USPTO patent examiner. The more time patent applications are waiting to be reviewed, the longer the U.S. goes without an invention that can spur economic growth.

Specifically, H.R. 5874 provides up to \$129 million, fully offset, to help prevent additional backlogs in the processing of patent applications. With this funding, the USPTO will be able to hire additional staff and afford to pay necessary overtime to prevent additional backlogs.

Patents are critical to American innovation and economic growth. An efficient patent examination system will foster innovation and job creation by ensuring that individuals and small businesses have the ability to protect their intellectual property and continue to create new products.

Again, I am a proud supporter of this supplemental appropriations bill for the USPTO. I am proud to have voted with a majority of the House yesterday to pass this vital legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I missed the following recorded votes on the House floor on Monday, July 26, 2010.

Had I been present I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 467 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 1320), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 468 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1504), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 469 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 3101).

HONORING VALERIE HENRY

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and express sincere gratitude to Valerie Henry, who after 13 years of work on Capitol Hill, including seven years of service to the people of Oregon's Second Congressional District, is departing this institution today to become, as she puts it, full-time CEO of her household as she continues to raise her two wonderful children.

Valerie has become very well-respected in the Congress as a sharp-as-a-tack policy aide in health care, education, taxes, budget issues, and telecommunications. But don't just take my word for it. In 2005, the National Rural Health Association bestowed on her the NRHA Legislative Staff Award in recognition of her ongoing commitments to improving the health care of rural Americans.

Valerie was born and raised just across the Potomac River in Alexandria, Virginia. She learned the value of representative democracy from her mom (Virginia Franco) who served for 30 years as the deputy registrar of voters for the city of Alexandria and oversaw the administration of hundreds of local, State and Federal elections.

After graduating from her beloved Virginia Tech in 1997, she began her career on Capitol Hill as an intern for her home State senator and quintessential statesman, Senator John Warner. That internship eventually translated into a full-time job. She worked for Senator Warner through the historic impeachment proceedings of President Bill Clinton.

While in Senator Warner's office, she also met her future husband, Patrick Henry, who worked for Senator Warner in his committee office. Pat remains a dedicated public servant, serving now as Special Agent in the U.S. Secret Service, and is one heck of a good guy.

In 1999, Valerie joined the staff of Idaho Senator MIKE CRAPO shortly after he was sworn in as United States Senator. It was there, Madam Speaker, that Valerie says she developed her love for policy analysis and an appreciation for the impact that the Federal government has on the lives of individuals.

A brief stint downtown with a health law and lobbying firm confirmed for Valerie that Capitol Hill was where her talents could best be put to use. So in April 2003, Valerie returned to the Hill as a legislative assistant in my Washington, D.C. office, where she faithfully served the people of Oregon's Second Congressional District for the next seven years.

Through those years, Madam Speaker, Valerie provided essential guidance to me on several historic legislative measures, including the Medicare Modernization Act and the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

I and my staff celebrated when Valerie and Pat welcomed their first child in 2005—a daughter, Carlson "Carly" Jean Henry, named after Valerie, and again in 2009 when their son, Patrick "Trip" Timothy Henry III, was born. Carly and Trip are great kids, and fortunate to have such loving parents.

Madam Speaker, it is these precious legacies that have lured Valerie away from our beloved House on Capitol Hill to her home in Falls Church, Virginia.

I speak for all of Oregon's Second District, and this historic institution, when I say "thank you" to Valerie Henry for her selfless and valuable service over these years.

Madam Speaker, I will greatly miss Valerie's highly informed counsel and wonderfully infectious personality. And I know the staff will miss the camaraderie that Valerie brought to the office every single day. While we might prefer not to lose her invaluable professional contributions, we are comforted knowing that our friend will never be that far away.